

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01118 171950Z

15

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 IO-11 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 ISO-00 /127 W

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R 171920Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8175

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USNATO 3654

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1118

DISTO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJECT: CCD WESTERN GROUP MEETING, FEBRUARY 17, 1976

1. AT US INVITATION, CCD WESERN GROUP MET MORNING
OF FEB 17 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON SPRING 1976 CCD
SESSION WHICH COMMENCED SAME DATA. US REP MARTIN OUTLINED
US VIEWS AND ANTICIPATED APPROACH ON MAIN ISSUES BEFORE
COMMITTEE, ALONG LINES SET OUT IN POSITION PAPERS
ON ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION AND CCD PROCEDURES AND
GENERAL DELEGATION GUIDANCE.

2. MARTIN DESCRIBED ENMOD AS ONLY SUBSTANTIVE AREA
IN WHICH CCD IS LIKELY TO REGISTER SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS,
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01118 171950Z

STATED US HOPE THAT NEGOTIATION OF CONVENTION COULD BE

COMPLETED DURING 1976, AND NOTED THAT, WHILE WE PLANNED TO DEFEND US-SOVIET DRAFT, WE WERE KEENLY INTERESTED IN OTHERS' VIEWS AND HOPED ALLIES WOULD STATE THEIRS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. ON SWEDISH PROPOSAL FOR INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXPERTS ON COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN, MARTIN SAID THAT US PLANNED TO SEND EXPERTS AND EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ALLIES' PLANS IN THIS REGARD. HE NOTED UNCERTAINTY AS TO TIMING OF MEETING. US PREFERENCE, EXPRESSED TO SWEDES, WAS THAT IT TAKE PLACE IN CCD'S SUMMER SESSION IN VIEW OF CURRENTLY CONTINUING TTB/PNE NEGOTIATIONS. SWEDES HAD TOLD US THEY WERE WILLING TO SCHEDULE MEETING LATE RATHER THAN EARLY IN SPRING SESSION, BUT PREFERRED NOT TO DELAY IT UNTIL SUMMER.

4. ON SOVIET INITIATIVE ON NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, MARTIN OBSERVED THAT USSR CO-CHAIRMAN HAD INDICATED SOVS PLANNED TO PRESS MATTER IN CCD. US POSITION WAS UNCHANGED; WE WERE INTERESTED IN HEARING MORE DETAILS ON SUBJECT BUT DID NOT PLAN TO BRING IT UP OURSELVES.

5. ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, MARTIN SAID WE DID NOT EXPECT NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN NEAR FUTURE. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING IN CCD POSSIBLE MEANS OF EXCHANGING INFORMATION ON PROBLEM OF VERIFYING STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION, WHICH WAS ONE OF KEY OBSTACLES TO PROGRESS ON CW.

6. MARTIN OUTLINED PLANNED US PROPOSAL THAT CCD UNDERTAKE COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ITS PROCEDURES. HE STRESSED VIEW THAT THIS WAS BEST WAY OF MEETING ANTICIPATED PRESSURES FOR CHANGE, WITHIN COMMITTEE AS WELL AS IN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON UN DISARMAMENT ROLE WHICH COULD SEEK TO DETERMINE CCD'S PROCEDURES IF COMMITTEE WERE PERCEIVED AS DOING NOTHING ITSELF.

7. ON ENMOD, ALLIED REACTIONS WERE GENERALLY FAVORABLE TO US PRESENTATION. MEERBURG(NETHERLANDS)
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 01118 171950Z

SAID INTERNAL CONSIDERATION OF US-SOVIET DRAFT WAS GOING ON AND DUTCH EXPECTED TO MAKE STATEMENT OF CONSIDERABLE SCOPE IN MARCH. SCHLAICH (FRG) SAID GERMAN STATEMENT WOULD BE EXPECT ABOUT SAME TIME. ALLEN (UK) SAID BRITISH PROBABLY WOULD HAVE SOME "NITPICKS" BUT NO MAJOR CHALLENGES TO DRAFT. DI BERNARDO (ITALY) SAID ITALY REMAINED CONCERNED ABOUT COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE. BARTON (CANADA) SAID

CANADIANS WOULD BE READY TO PARTICIPATE IN ENMOD DISCUSSIONS BY MID-MARCH. ALL AGREED THAT ENMOD WOULD DOMINATE CCD'S SUBSTANTIVE WORK IN 1976.

8. ON CTB MEETING, THERE WAS BROAD SUPPORT FOR IDEA OF POSTPONEMENT TO SUMMER IF THIS WOULD ENABLE MORE INFORMATIVE US PARTICIPATION. OGISO (JAPAN) WONDERED WHETHER MEETING MIGHT BE DIVIDED, WITH SEISMOLOGY BEING TAKEN UP FIRST (PRESUMABLY IN SPRING SESSION) AND PNE ASPECTS DELAYED UNTIL SUMMER. SCHLAICH THOUGH THIS IDEA SHOULD BE EXPLORED. DI BERNARDO THOUGHT THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CTB QUESTION AND PNE WAS SO CLOSE THAT THE ENTIRE MEETING SHOULD BE PUT OFF. MEERBURG SUGGESTED THAT SWEDEN SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO DELAY MEETING IN THE INTEREST OF HAVING AN UNCONSTRAINED US EXPERTS' CONTINGENT. MARTIN INTERVENED TO CAUTION THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE ASSUMED THAT DELAY WOULD NECESSARILY ENABLE US PARTICIPANTS TO CONTRIBUTE MORE ON PNE ASPECTS OF QUESTION. BARTON EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF ARMS CONTROL IMPLICATIONS OF PNE, SUGGESTING THAT POSITIONS HAD BEEN DEFINITELY STAKED OUT BY NOW.

9. ON CW, MEERBURG SAID DUTCH WERE CONSIDERING WORKING PAPER. BARTON SAID CANADIANS WERE DISCOURAGED OVER LACK OF RESPONSE TO THEIR PREVIOUS SUBMISSIONS. MEERBURG SUGGESTED THAT CCD MIGHT HOLD A WEEK OF DISCUSSIONS DURING THE YEAR ON CW WORKING PAPERS TABLED IN 1975. SCHLAICH ENDORSE THIS IDEA.

10. ON PROCEDURES, US INITIATIVE RECEIVED BROAD SUPPORT
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PAGE 04 GENEVA 01118 171950Z

IN PRINCIPLE. DI BERNARDO SAID ITALY WANTED TO SAVE CCD AS FUNCTIONAL NEGOTIATION BODY AND PARTICULARLY DID NOT WANT TO SEE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP DROPPED "IN ISOLATION". BARTON FOUND US SUGGESTIONS "INTERESTING" BUT THOUGH CCD WAS STYMIED, NOT OVER PROCEDURES BUT BECAUSE OF ABSENCE OF SOME NUCLEAR POWERS AND OF BASIC SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, QUESTION WAS RAISED WHETHER US HAD FURTHER CONTACTED FRENCH REGARDING POSSIBLE CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD COMMITTEE IN EVENT CO-CHAIRMANSHIP DROPPED. MARTIN REPLIED THAT LIMITED ADDITIONAL SOUNDINGS HAD PRODUCED NO REAL SING

OF CHANGE. BRUNGART

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